



LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI – 600 034

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – SOCIOLOGY

FOURTH SEMESTER – APRIL 2025

USO 4501 – CONTEMPORARY SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY



Date: 24-04-2025

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

Time: 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM

SECTION A - K1 (CO1)

Answer ALL the Questions

(10 x 1 = 10)

1. Answer the following

- Expand AGIL.
- Define mass culture.
- Define stigma.
- What is network society?
- What is habitus?

2. Match the following

- Pattern Variables - Zygmunt Bauman
- Legitimation Crisis - Talcott Parsons
- Dramaturgy - Ulrich Beck
- Risk Society - Habermas
- Liquid Modernity - Erving Goffman

SECTION A - K2 (CO1)

Answer ALL the Questions

(10 x 1 = 10)

3. True or False

- Manifest functions are functions that are neither intended nor recognised.
- Public sphere is a domain of social life where public opinion can be formed through free and equal citizens coming together to share information, debate, and deliberate on matters of common concern.
- Schutz's work focuses on understanding social actions based on subjective meanings, highlighting how individuals interpret their own actions and the actions of others.
- Modern society is organized around interconnected networks powered by family relations that transform social structures, economies, and cultures.
- The Holocaust should be seen as deeply connected to modernity and its order-making efforts.

4. Fill in the blanks

- Talcott Parsons' pattern variables are a framework that helps categorize _____ and _____.
- The Frankfurt School critically examined the effects of _____ on human life.
- _____ uses the metaphor of theater to understand social interaction, viewing everyday life as a performance where individuals act out roles and manage impressions to achieve desired outcomes.
- _____ identifies the doctor's practice of objectifying the body of the patient, as separate and apart from their personal identity.
- Cultural capital, encompassing knowledge, skills, and tastes, reinforces _____.

SECTION B - K3 (CO2)	
Answer any TWO of the following in 600 words each. (2 x 10 = 20)	
5.	Analyze the concepts of manifest and latent functions.
6.	Technology is a means of social control - Justify.
7.	Examine Habermas's idea of legitimisation crisis.
8.	Analyse the significance of risk society.
SECTION C – K4 (CO3)	
Answer any TWO of the following in 600 words each. (2 x 10 = 20)	
9.	Explain the theory of communicative action.
10.	Discuss social types and typifications of Schutz.
11.	Write a brief note on 'Liquid Modernity'.
12.	Castells argues that the rise of digital and information technologies has led to a new form of social organization. Do you agree? Support your answer with suitable examples.
SECTION D – K5 (CO4)	
Answer any ONE of the following in 1000 words (1 x 20 = 20)	
13.	Explain how pattern variables can be interpreted in contemporary world.
14.	Give a detailed analysis of ethnomethodology.
SECTION E – K6 (CO5)	
Answer any ONE of the following in 1000 words (1 x 20 = 20)	
15.	Evaluate the significance of metaphors in Goffman's theoretical formulation.
16.	Critique the interaction between power and knowledge according to Foucault.
